

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation in which front wheels and rear wheels are suspended from a body frame via a suspension and the front wheels can be steered with a handle via a steering shaft mounted rotatably on said body frame, said steering shaft support structure comprising:

a cross beam being placed in spanning relation between left and right pipes composing said body frame; and

said steering shaft being supported by the cross beam.

2. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 1, wherein said cross beam comprises a tank support portion for supporting a fuel tank.

3. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 1, and further including a bushing mounted on said cross beam for rotatably mounting the steering shaft relative to the cross beam.

4. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 1, wherein said cross beam is formed by bend molding a plate material into a substantially box-shaped configuration.

5. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 4, and further including a front holder formed by press

molding and being provided with an arc forming portion formed with an arcuate portion at a central portion thereof.

6. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 5, and further including flat portions extending from both ends of the front holder and an upright portion extending forwardwardly for enhancing the rigidity of the front holder.

7. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 1, wherein the cross beam includes an arc forming portion formed with an arcuate portion at a central portion thereof and flat portions at both ends thereof with a protruding wall formed to protrude rearwardly from the upper edge of the arcuate portion.

8. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 7, and further including left and right front mount portions formed at lower portions of the arc forming portion for mounting the cross beam on respective left and right pipes composing the body frame.

9. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 8, and further including side mount portions bent rearwardly from the respective left and right end portions of the arc forming portion and mounted on the body frame.

10. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 9, wherein the side portions include a plurality of

apertures for reducing the weight of the cross beam.

11. A steering shaft support structure for a vehicle wherein front wheels can be steered with a handle via a steering shaft mounted rotatably on said body frame, said steering shaft support structure comprising:

a left support and a right support forming a body frame;

a cross beam being placed in spanning relation between the left and right supports; and

said steering shaft being supported by the cross beam.

12. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 11, wherein said cross beam comprises a tank support portion for supporting a fuel tank.

13. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 11, and further including a bushing mounted on said cross beam for rotatably mounting the steering shaft relative to the cross beam.

14. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 11, wherein said cross beam is formed by bend molding a plate material into a substantially box-shaped configuration.

15. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 14, and further including a front holder formed by press molding and being provided with an arc forming portion formed with an arcuate portion at a central portion thereof.

16. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 15, and further including flat portions extending from both ends of the front holder and an upright portion extending forwardwardly for enhancing the rigidity of the front holder.

17. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 11, wherein the cross beam includes an arc forming portion formed with an arcuate portion at a central portion thereof and flat portions at both ends thereof with a protruding wall formed to protrude rearwardly from the upper edge of the arcuate portion.

18. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 17, and further including left and right front mount portions formed at lower portions of the arc forming portion for mounting the cross beam on respective left and right pipes composing the body frame.

19. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 18, and further including side mount portions bent rearwardly from the respective left and right end portions of the arc forming portion and mounted on the body frame.

20. The steering shaft support structure for a vehicle for uneven ground operation according to claim 19, wherein the side portions include a plurality of apertures for reducing the weight of the cross beam.